hire-purchase scheme but were forced to make payment on cash down basis in view of the latest courts verdic in this regard; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof and what action has been taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) No penalty will be levied in cases where DDA is at fault. In cases where even though block numbers and Qr. numbers were not indicated but the registrants had received demand letters and had not deposited amount in time, the penalty for delayed demand will be levied. Each case will be decided on merits.

(b) and (c) In view of the court's decision DDA will go by the terms & conditions of payment as indicated in the brochure where, however, the registrants have already made the cash down payment voluntarily such cases are not to be re-opened.

Purchase and sale of land through Power of Attorney

3249. SHRI F. M. KHAN: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an advertisement from Chief Executive Councillor, Delhi has appeared in newspapers on the 30th July, 1987 that Delhi Metropolitan Council has adopted a resolution on the 22nd July, 1987 by which purchases, sales and other transfer of interest in land or property that have been effected through General Power of Attorney prior to the passing of this Resolution be treated as valid sale, purchase or transfer of interest for practicable purposes;

(b) if so, whether this resolution would also be applicable to DDA flat and plots of group housing societies, sold/purchased/transferred prior to 22nd July, 1987; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) DDA has not taken any decision in this regard.

Urbanisation of Population

3250. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) how many people migrate every year to the cities in search of employment and permanent settlement;

(b) what are the details in this regard for Bombay, Calcutta Delhi, Madras. Bangalore, Hyderabad and Ahmedabad;

(c) whether it is a fact that the perspective planning of civic infrastructural facilities like drinking water, sewerage, electricity, schools, Hospitals etc. have been upset by this trend; and

(d) what detailed action Government propose to take to contain the influx to urban areas on one hand simultaneously to step up the civic infrastructural facilities?

THE MINISTER STATE IN THE MINISTRY C BAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DA R SINGH): (a) and (b) precise figures are available. As per the 1981 census figures, the annual rate of growth of urban population in the country during the decade 1971-81 was 4.64 per cent. For the same period, the annual rate of the growth of urban population in Bombay, Calcutta, Delhi, Madras, Bangalore, Hyderabad and Ahmedabad was 3.26 per cent, 2.69 per cent, 4.59 per cent, 3.04 per cent, 5.82 per cent, 3.48 per cent and 3.70 per cent respectively. Out of this, for purposes of calculation, about 2 per cent annual growth could be attributed to natural increase and the rest to migration.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) In order to ensure a balanced distribution of urban population and to slow down the growth of metrpolises, a Centrally sponsored scheme for the Integrated Development of Small and Medium Towns was introduced in 1979 to provide infrastructure and other facilities in these towns. 235 towns were covered upto the end of the 6th Plan and 102 more towns are proposed to be covered during the 7th Plan period. Concerted efforts are being made to channelise private and public industrial investment in the viciniy of small and medium towns so that migration of population is diverted to these from going to the metropolises. In addition to the normal investments made by the State Governments to improve the civic infrastructural facilities, adequate funds are made available by negotiating appropriate urban development projects with the World Bank and DDA assistance.

Import of Fertilizers

3251. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the curent year's target for import of various fertilizers;

(b) whether the pending contracts for the import of fertilisers, and by when they are coming to an end with the details thereof indicating the country from where it is to be imported and the rate at which it is to be imported;

(c) whether it is a fact that there is already glut of indigenous production of fertilisers; and

(d) if so, the reasons for which Government still continue the imports of fertilisers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZERS IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. PRABHU): (a) and (b) It would not be in the public interest to disclose these details.

(c) Yes, Sir. The present high stock of fertilisers is due to low off-take on account of unfavourable weather conditions in many parts of the country;

(d) The entire requirement of potassic fertiliser is met by import as ther are no known commercially viable indigenous sources of potash. Some quantities of Urea and DAP are planned to be imported during the second half of the year to meet trade/aid commitments. However, imported stocks will not be released for sale so long as the indigenous stocks can meet the entire demand, as far as possible.

Development of Agriculture in Punjab

3252. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that U. S. Department of Agriculture has given grants to Indian Scientists to develop new varieties of wheat grains;

b) if so, what is the value of the grants received;

(c) whether the Ministry propose to ask U.S. Department of Agriculture and Agriculture Universities to give grant and assist the Indian Scientists to develop yield per acre of Potatoes, Tomatoes and other Horticulture products to solve the problems of the farmers of Punjab and to help the Punjab Agro Industries to make Potato chips, tomato paste and fruit juice concentrate; and

(d) is it better to work and get a grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture than to pay rupees 1 crore as Technical fees to Pepsi for helping the farmers of Punjab?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE